

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

November Livestock Slaughter
Hog and Pig Inventory
Average Prices Received by Farmers
Cotton Ginnings

Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during November totaled 1.0 million pounds, down 17 percent from October and 9 percent below the previous year.

There were 1,100 head of **cattle** slaughtered during November, down 100 head from October but up 100 head from the previous year. Average live weight was 851 pounds, down 32 pounds from the previous month and 85 pounds below November 2004. Total live weight, at 905,000 pounds, was down 16 percent from October and 6 percent below the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during November totaled 500 head, down 300 head from October and the previous year. Live weight averaged 473 pounds, down 24 pounds from October and 5 pounds below a year ago. Total live weight, at 252,000 pounds, was down 39 percent from October and 34 percent below the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during November totaled 1,800 head, unchanged from the previous month but 500 head below November 2004. Average live weight was 172 pounds, down 16 pounds from October and 9 pounds below the previous year. Total live weight was 311,000 pounds, down 9 percent from October and 26 percent below a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during November was 100 head, unchanged from October and the same as the previous year. Live weight averaged 81 pounds, down 7 pounds from the previous month but the same as the previous year.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.94 billion pounds in November, up 5 percent from the 3.77 billion pounds produced in November 2004.

November 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. November 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.07 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.67 million head, up 5 percent from November 2004. The average live weight was up 16 pounds from the previous year, at 1,284 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.4 million pounds, 10 percent below November a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 56,300 head, down 17 percent from November 2004. The average live weight was 29 pounds above last year, at 365 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.84 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.13 million head, 2 percent above November 2004. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.8 million pounds, was down 4 percent from November 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 224,500 head, 7 percent below last year. The average live weight was 141 pounds, up 5 pounds from November a year ago.

January to November 2005 commercial red meat production was 41.8 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2004. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year; veal was down 6 percent; pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Red Meat Production

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	October	November		January – November		November		January – November	
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	----- Number, thousand head -----					----- Number, thousand head -----			
Cattle	1.2	1.0	1.1	12.3	11.7	2,542.3	2,667.5	30,038.0	29,713.6
Calves	0.8	0.8	0.5	7.1	5.6	67.9	56.3	767.8	674.2
Hogs	1.8	2.3	1.8	20.2	18.0	8,972.8	9,132.3	94,213.5	94,320.8
Sheep & Lambs	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.6	1.6	242.0	224.5	2,597.2	2,469.0
	----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----					----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----			
Cattle	1,078	958	905	10,773	10,229	3,224,586	3,426,084	37,176,693	37,291,124
Calves	416	380	252	3,491	2,746	22,809	20,562	253,341	237,055
Hogs	343	419	311	4,105	3,475	2,421,568	2,483,610	25,091,652	25,314,179
Sheep & Lambs	8	8	10	150	151	32,914	31,556	352,985	340,774
	----- Average live weight, pounds -----					----- Average live weight, pounds -----			
Cattle	883	936	851	876	874	1,268	1,284	1,238	1,255
Calves	497	478	473	492	490	336	365	330	352
Hogs	188	181	172	203	193	270	272	266	268
Sheep & Lambs	74	81	81	94	94	136	141	136	138
	----- Million pounds -----					----- Million pounds -----			
Red Meat	1.2	1.1	1.0	12.0	10.8	3,770.1	3,942.3	41,486.1	41,763.2

Louisiana Hog Inventory

Louisiana's total hog inventory for December 1, 2005, at 14,000, was down from December 2004. At 2,000 head, the Louisiana breeding hog inventory was the same as the December 1 inventory a year ago. Market hog inventories totaled 12,000 head, down from a year earlier.

The December 2004 - November 2005 Louisiana pig crop, at 27,000 head, was down 3,000 head from the pig crop during the December 2003 - November 2004 period. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3,600 head, down 600 head from the previous year. An average of 7.50 pigs were saved per litter during the December 2004 - November 2005 period.

United States Hog Inventory

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2005, was 61.2 million head. This was up slightly from December 1, 2004, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2005.

Breeding inventory, at 6.01 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 55.2 million head, was up slightly from last year but down 1 percent from last quarter.

The September - November 2005 U.S. pig crop, at 26.1 million head, was up 1 percent from 2004 and up 2 percent from 2003. Sow's farrowing during this period totaled 2.89 million head, the same as last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.03 for the September - November 2005 period, compared to 8.96 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

Hogs and Pigs on Farms, December 1, 2005

Item	Louisiana		United States ¹	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
	----- 1,000 Head -----		----- 1,000 Head -----	
Total Hogs and Pigs	16.0	14.0	60,975	61,197
Breeding	2.0	2.0	5,969	6,011
Market	14.0	12.0	55,005	55,186
Under 60 pounds	5.0	4.0	19,980	19,955
60-119 pounds	4.0	3.0	13,439	13,552
120-179 pounds	2.0	2.0	11,186	11,266
180 pounds & over	3.0	3.0	10,401	10,414

¹ Weight groups may not add to market due to rounding.

Annual Farrowings: Number of Sows, Pigs per Litter and Pig Crop, selected States and United States, December 2004 – November 2005

Selected States	Sows Farrowing		Pigs per Litter		Pig Crop	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	----- 1,000 Head -----		----- Number -----		----- 1,000 Head - -----	
Alabama	29.0	32.0	8.83	8.91	256.0	285.0
Arkansas	164.0	169.0	9.55	9.64	1,566.0	1,629.0
Louisiana	4.2	3.6	7.14	7.50	30.0	27.0
Mississippi	61.5	70.0	8.78	8.86	540.0	620.0
Texas	195.0	175.0	8.76	9.15	1,709.0	1,602.0
United States	11,498.0	11,504.0	8.94	9.01	102,780.0	103,685.0

Prices Received Index Up

The Preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 114, based on 1990-92=100, increased 1 point from November. The Crop Index is up 4 points but the Livestock Index decreased 2 points. Producers received higher commodity prices for tomatoes, corn, strawberries and lettuce. Lower prices were received for oranges, broilers, dairy and grapes. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of dairy, wheat, oranges and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, soybeans, grapes and corn.

Preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 3 points from December 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 120, was unchanged from last month, but increased 3 points from December 2004.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The December Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates is 143 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from November but 9 points above December 2004. Lower prices in December for feeder cattle, diesel fuel, complete feeds and LP gas offset higher prices for nitrogen fertilizers, feed concentrates, feeder pigs and feed grains.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: November 2005

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	December 2004	November 2005	December 2005 ¹	December 2004	November 2005	December 2005 ¹
	----- Dollars -----			----- Dollars -----		
Soybeans, per bushel	5.57	5.91	6.20	5.45	5.62	5.71
Rice, per cwt	7.74	7.00	7.19	7.37	7.44	7.56
Upland Cotton, per pound	.446	.485	.487 ²	.393	.485	.489 ²
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	86.00	91.70	92.00
Beef Cattle, per cwt ³	64.40	62.90	63.20	86.80	91.30	92.70
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	98.50	99.30	104.00	91.90	97.30	99.10
Cows, per cwt ⁴	48.00	42.40	44.00	48.60	46.00	46.60
Calves, per cwt	115.00	119.00	122.00	122.00	133.00	135.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.390	.420	.390
Eggs, all, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	.654	.653	.719
Milk, all, per cwt ⁵	n/a	n/a	n/a	16.40	15.10	14.70

¹ Mid-month.

² Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

³ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

⁴ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁵ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = not available.

**Cotton Ginnings: Running Bales Ginned (Excluding Linters) Prior to
December 15, by Crop, State and United States, Crop Years 2002– 2005**

Crop and State	Running Bales Ginned			
	2002	2003	2004	2005
<u>All Cotton</u>				
Alabama	510,350	728,150	723,300	754,950
Arizona	471,750	368,600	440,050	386,200
Arkansas	1,596,450	1,720,800	1,946,600	2,073,600
California	1,627,800	1,452,900	1,798,750	1,289,400
Florida	60,500	113,700	86,900	102,950
Georgia	1,318,750	1,773,350	1,603,950	1,760,050
Kansas ¹	-----	28,300	9,800	56,050
Louisiana	746,850	1,028,300	881,600	1,105,650
Mississippi	1,840,000	2,038,650	2,227,400	2,090,150
Missouri	564,950	655,800	782,950	861,100
New Mexico	46,000	48,400	44,100	51,050
North Carolina	711,450	931,950	1,262,850	1,208,100
Oklahoma	158,650	159,900	175,600	214,000
South Carolina	105,300	263,750	336,300	324,400
Tennessee	776,350	821,300	912,400	1,064,650
Texas	3,777,650	3,444,500	3,701,700	4,931,000
Virginia	79,650	99,650	138,100	138,300
United States	14,392,450	15,678,000	17,072,350	18,411,600
<u>American-Pima</u>				
Arizona ¹	12,850	-----	-----	2,550
California	341,650	269,750	432,900	348,900
New Mexico ¹	11,600	-----	-----	9,500
Texas	27,450	31,850	27,450	24,400
United States	393,550	313,550	475,200	385,350

¹ Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins, but included in US totals.

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